

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 NEAE-00 AID-05 DEAE-00
CIAE-00 INR-07 JUSE-00 NSAE-00 SNM-02 TRSE-00
USIA-06 NSC-05 OES-07 OMB-01 DODE-00 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 HEW-04 L-03 AGR-01 SS-15 /096 W
-----151258Z 076299 /46

P 151130Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3159

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN PRIORITY

USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 KABUL 4194

NEA/PAB PLEASE PASS TO AMBASSADOR ELIOT

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, AF, UN

SUBJECT: AFGHANS PLAN TO CONVENE "INTERNATIONAL COORDINATING
COMMITTEE ON AFGHAN NARCOTICS MATTERS" IN EARLY JULY

REF: A) KABUL 3773 B) KABUL 4171

1. SUMMARY. AFGHANISTAN WILL CONVENE THE FIRST
SESSION OF ITS NEW "INTERNATIONAL COORDINATING
COMMITTEE ON AFGHAN NARCOTICS MATTERS" IN EARLY
JULY, INITIALLY LIMITING FOREIGN PARTICIPATION
TO THE UN AND THE US.

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2. ON JUNE 15, ABDUL SAMAD GHAUS, DEPUTY MINISTER
FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS IN THE AFGHAN MFA, TOLD EMBASSY
OFFICERS THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WAS PLANNING TO
CONVENE THE FIRST SESSION OF THEIR NEW "INTER-
NATIONAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON AFGHAN
NARCOTICS MATTERS" DURING "THE FIRST DAYS OF

JULY," IN ORDER TO MEET THE DEADLINE GIVEN BY MINISTER-IN-CHARGE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS WAHEED ABDULLAH FOR USE IN THE PRESIDENT'S JUNE 1 SWEARING-IN CEREMONY FOR DR. BOURNE (REFTEL A).

3. GHAUS SAID THAT THIS FIRST SESSION WOULD BE "INFORMAL AND EXPLORATORY." THE MEETING WILL BE CONVENED BY THE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, MOHAMMAD YAHYA MAROOFI, ACTING DIRECTOR OF THE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND UN AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT OF THE MFA. THE DRAFT AGENDA IS CURRENTLY BEING PREPARED BY WORKING-LEVEL OFFICIALS OF THE MINISTRIES OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, INTERIOR, PUBLIC HEALTH, AGRICULTURE, AND FINANCE ALONG THE LINES OF POLICY GUIDANCE PROVIDED BY THEIR MINISTERS AFTER THE LATTERS' JUNE 7 MEETING. THE AFGHAN SIDE WILL PRESENT THEIR DRAFT AGENDA AT THE FIRST SESSION (COPIES WILL NOT BE MADE AVAILABLE TO OTHER PARTICIPANTS BEFORE THAT TIME), AND "AIR AFGHAN VIEWS ON THE BASIS OF THE DRAFT AGENDA."

4. GHAUS EXPECTS THE PARTICIPANTS TO WEIGH SUCH QUESTIONS: "WHAT IS FEASIBLE?"; "WHAT CAN THE AFGHAN GOVERNMENT AFFORD?"; OR "WHAT CAN OTHERS AFFORD?". HE ALSO THOUGHT THAT THE MAIN COMMITTEE MIGHT DECIDE TO BREAK DOWN INTO SMALLER WORKING SUBCOMMITTEES, COVERING SUCH SPECIAL QUESTIONS AS: (A) THE HELMAND; CONFIDENTIAL

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(B) BADA KHSHAN, (C) LAW ENFORCEMENT, (D) "SOCIAL-ECONOMIC INTEGRATION DEVELOPMENT," (E) INCOME SUBSTITUTION, AND (F) CROP SUBSTITUTION.

5. CONCERNING PARTICIPATION BY OTHER NATIONS (REFTEL B), GHAUS FIRMLY REPEATED THE POSITION EXPRESSED EARLIER BY MAROOFI: THE GOVERNMENT OF AFGHANISTAN (GOA) WANTS TO RIM THXQRESGN # PARTICIPATION TO THE UN AND THE US -- AT LEAST INITIALLY. THE GOA WANTS TO KEEP THE COMMITTEE WITHIN INFORMAL, MANAGEABLE LIMITS, AND FEELS EXTENDED MULTILATERAL PARTICIPATION MIGHT IMPEDE THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THIS GOAL. AN EMBASSY OFFICER AGAIN MADE CLEAR THE U.S. POSITION THAT WE HAD NEITHER SOUGHT NOR RECEIVED ANY AUTHORITY FROM ANY OTHER STATE TO REPRESENT THEIR INTERESTS. GHAUS RESPONDED THAT HIS GOVERNMENT UNDERSTOOD THIS, BUT HOPED THAT WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO CONVEY

VIEWS TO OTHER GOVERNMENTS "UNOFFICIALLY" IF
THE NEED ARISES. HE REQUESTED THAT WE ALL BE
"VERY PRAGMATIC."

NOTE BY OC/T: #AS RECEIVED

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FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3160

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

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AMEMBASSY TEHRAN PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 KABUL 4194

NEA/PAB PLEASE PASS TO AMBASSADOR ELIOT

6. BEGIN COMMENT: EHE EMBASSY HAD HOPED THAT
SOMEONE MORE SENIOR THAN MAROOFI WOULD HAVE
BEEN DESIGNATED AS CHAIRMAN, THEREBY GIVING
THE COMMITTEE THE GREATEST POSSIBLE STATURE
AND INFLUENCE IN THE GOA. HOWEVER, MAROOFI'S
EFFORTS WILL PRESUMABLY BE SUPPORTED BY HIGH-
LEVEL ATTENTION AND INTEREST.

7. GHASUS' LIST OF POSSIBLE SUBCOMMITTEES
INDICATES THAT THE AFGHANS HOPE TO DERIVE
SOME SPECIFIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS FROM THIS
EFFORT -- AND THIS IS OBVIOUSLY THEIR PRIMARY

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GOAL.

8. AS FOR THE QUESTION OF PARTICIPATION BY OTHER COUNTRIES, THERE APPEARS TO BE NO OTHER SUITABLE ACTION THE EMBASSY CAN TAKE AT THIS TIME. OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES, SUCH AS THE UN AND THE UK, WILL PROBABLY CARRY ON THIS DISCUSSION WITH THE AFGHANS -- BUT ARE UNLIKELY TO BE ABLE TO CHANGE THE GOA DECISION AT THIS STAGE. SHOULD ISSUES ARISE AT THE MEETING WHICH INVOLVE OTHER COUNTRIES, WE INTEND TO PRESS FOR THEIR DIRECT PARTICIPATION. END COMMENT.
WOODWARD

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